

# CALIFORNIA STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

WALTER M. DICKIE, M.D., Director

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## Weekly Bulletin



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GUY P. JONES  
 EDITOR

## Many Californians Marry in Nevada

The California State Department of Public Health has made a comparison of California marriage statistics with those of Nevada, and has reached the conclusion that about 25 per cent of Californians who contemplate marriage travel to an adjoining state for their nuptials. Normally there should have been at least 80,000 marriages performed in California last year, but there were only 61,850 such events recorded. At least 20,000 couples from California were married in Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, and other western states. Statistical data from Arizona and Mexico are not now available, but the Nevada records show that counties of that state have, undoubtedly, the highest recorded marriage rates. With an estimated population of 91,058, Nevada registered 14,250 marriages last year, while California, with an estimated population of 6,658,000, registered 61,850 such events.

The marriage rate for Nevada in 1938 was 156.5 per thousand estimated population as compared with the California rate of 9.3 per thousand. In Washoe County (Reno) with an estimated population of 27,158, there were 7,978 marriages last year, giving a rate of 293.8 per thousand, and in Clark County (Las Vegas), with a population of 8,532, there were 3,120 marriages or 365.7 per thousand. But the highest marriage rate in the world, without doubt, is that of Ormsby County (Carson City) in 1938. In an estimated population of 2,221 there were 1,685 marriages giving a rate of 758.7 per thousand population. It is

believed that no locality on the face of the earth can boast a higher marriage rate.

Before 1927, when the present California marriage laws became effective, the annual marriage rates in California averaged 12 and 13 per thousand population. Since that time they have ranged from 7 to 9 per thousand. The lowest California rate was 7.2 in 1932 when the economic depression was at its lowest and young people could not afford to marry. Nevada suffered worse than California in that year, however, indicating that Californians did not have sufficient funds to travel to Nevada and were forced to marry at home. The Nevada marriage rate in 1931 was 83.8 and it dropped to 31.5 in 1932. Since that year, however, it has sky-rocketed in spectacular fashion, as shown in the following table:

Year	Rate	Number
1932	31.5	2,867
1933	75.2	6,844
1934	95.6	8,708
1935	107.6	9,799
1936	125.2	11,402
1937	153.6	13,987
1938	156.5	14,250

Marriage rates for the state of Nevada, exclusive of Reno, Las Vegas and Carson City, are higher than the California rates, but they are not excessively high. In 1938, for example, there were but 1,467 marriages in all Nevada, exclusive of these three popular cities.



In order to determine the true index of marriage for California it would be necessary to include most of the marriage records of Nevada and other states. The exact index can not be determined, but it is certain that not more than 75 per cent of Californians are married in California.

#### EPIDEMIC DIARRHEA OF THE NEWBORN

Two outbreaks of epidemic diarrhea in the newborn were investigated during February, one of which was in the southern part of the state and the other in northern California. Both outbreaks occurred in nurseries connected with institutions. Clinically, they were identical. Within five to seven days after birth the infants became ill with diarrhea, dehydration, loss of weight and toxemia. Eleven cases occurred in one nursery and twenty-seven in the other. The exact cause of these outbreaks is unknown and all bacteriological work undertaken has proved negative. Certain control measures, however, have proved effective in preventing the spread of the epidemic.

#### EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN VENEREAL DISEASES

During February 35,000 pamphlets pertaining to the prevention and control of syphilis and gonorrhea were distributed. More than 18,000 report forms were sent to clinics and physicians. Lectures were given by members of the staff before groups of high school teachers, service clubs, women's clubs, students, classes, and special organizations. Films were shown before audiences totaling almost 4000. A commentator was present at most of these showings. Many were given under the auspices of local health departments, boards of education, chambers of commerce, and welfare organizations.

#### PSITTACOSIS CONTROL

In southern California 49 shell parrakeet aviaries were inspected and 183 interstate shipments were checked and approved. These shipments involved 2141 shell parrakeets and 225 larger psittacine birds.

#### MEASLES MAKE A RECORD

There were no less than 11,267 cases of measles reported during February. This is the greatest number of cases reported during the same month in any other year excepting February of 1927, when 11,562 cases were reported. It would appear that 1939 may bring the most extensive epidemic of measles ever to be recorded in the history of the state.

#### MANY PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES GIVEN CERTIFICATES

The California State Board of Public Health examination for public health nursing certificate was given in San Francisco and Los Angeles December 10, 1938.

Out of seventy candidates who reported for the examination, fifty-eight were successful. All but fourteen of the nurses who took the examination are employed at the present time.

Of the twelve candidates who were unsuccessful in the examination, two have failed three times and five have failed twice. Three who failed in examinations given previously were successful in the December examination.

The agencies represented by nurses who took the examination are as follows:

Health Departments.....	25
Visiting nursing services.....	16
Schools .....	15
Total .....	56

Following are the names of public health nurses who earned their certificates in this examination:

Anne F. Anderson	Alice R. Norment
May D. Atherton	Adeline D. Overton
Frances Bauch	Mildred Parenteau
Marion H. Beard	Constance Phillips
Hazel Bowen	Dorthea S. Phillips
Marvilyn Buchanan	Frances V. Phillips
Eunice C. Bullene	Norma L. Picchi
Florence Burgeson	Gunilda R. Pistorius
Marie R. Colombo	Mary Rogers
Esther Thorpe Colvin	Doretta Rosenblatt
Evelyn Mavis Compton	Laura M. Shepherd
Milre Burmeister Cox	Grace B. Slessman
Nelle A. Demeritt	Evelyn E. Smithwick
Lucy Dennison	Grace Beeson Snow
Madeline Dutton	Marie Louise Staley
Florence Edner	Edna Cora Stone
Frances M. Grant	Esther Sugden
Mary M. Hill	Genevieve Wiles Sutton
Lola O. Hogan	Janette G. Swindt
Madge Holderman	Elma Tabing
Betty Howes Jacobson	Pauline E. Thatcher
Eliza Jones	Edith Thompson
Mary E. Jorgensen	Marion Thornton
Ruth Krover	Helen H. Weber
Elva M. Lewis	Beatrice W. Whitaker
Helen Hudson Lindsay	Gretchen Wilson
Ethel V. Mason	Helen B. Wilson
Maud McGinnis	Adele M. Winn
Bernice Neilson	Mary L. Wooldridge

#### CHIEF NUTRITIONIST APPOINTED

Miss Lillian Brinkman has been appointed Chief of Nutrition Services under the Bureau of Child Hygiene. She will organize programs in nutritional subjects for use by public health nurses, health officers and other officials. Under her direction the nutritional services for migratory laboring groups will be continued.



**BIRTHS BREAK ALL RECORDS**

More infants were born in California last year than during any year in the history of the state. No less than 101,617 births were registered in California during 1938. This is an increase of 7331 or 7.8 per cent over the preceding year when 94,286 births were recorded. Nearly every county of the state contributed to the increase. Only some of the mountain and rural counties, with their dwindling populations of young people, failed to contribute to this bumper crop of babies. Birth rates are conspicuously high in the lower San Joaquin Valley, where the following county rates may be compared with the state rate of 15.3 per 1000 population.

Kern	30.3
Kings	27.3
Madera	27.2
Tulare	26.5
Fresno	21.6
Merced	24.8
Stanislaus	21.3

Los Angeles, the most populous county of California, naturally contributed the greatest number of registered births—37,922, or 37.3 per cent of the total. The smallest county, Alpine, registered 3 births as compared with 2 in 1937.

Of the total 101,617 births registered, last year, 83,864 were white—82.6 per cent of the total. Each year the percentage of white births increases slightly. Mexican births, 12,908, constituted 12.7 per cent of the total last year—a slight decrease as compared with 1937. Births, by races in 1937 and 1938 are as follows:

	1938		1937	
	No.	%	No.	%
White	83,864	82.6	77,576	82.3
Negro	1,693	1.7	1,534	1.6
Indian	451	.4	436	.5
Chinese	545	.5	542	.6
Japanese	1,528	1.5	1,436	1.5
Mexican	12,908	12.7	12,173	12.9
Filipino	444	.4	377	.4
Others	184	.2	212	.2
Totals	101,617	100	94,286	100

Following are the numbers of births registered by counties, in 1937 and 1938.

	1938		1937	
Counties	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
Alameda	7,178	13.5	6,939	13.2
Alpine	3	12.4	2	8.3
Amador	63	7.2	72	8.2
Butte	878	24.5	705	19.8
Calaveras	71	11.8	64	10.6
Colusa	180	16.8	163	15.3
Contra Costa	1,159	13.0	1,101	12.5
Del Norte	71	12.7	71	12.9
El Dorado	184	20.1	140	15.5
Fresno	3,272	21.6	2,890	19.2
Glenn	147	13.4	158	14.4
Humboldt	753	16.4	702	15.4
Imperial	1,547	22.6	1,437	21.3
Inyo	115	17.6	106	16.2
Kern	2,872	30.3	2,523	27.1

	1938		1937	
Counties	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
Kings	732	27.3	663	24.9
Lake	86	10.8	84	10.7
Lassen	318	22.1	318	22.5
Los Angeles	37,922	13.7	35,741	13.3
Madera	526	27.2	484	25.4
Marin	359	7.5	356	7.6
Mariposa	35	10.2	30	8.8
Mendocino	383	16.3	360	15.3
Merced	1,043	24.8	844	20.4
Modoc	126	13.7	91	10.1
Mono	9	5.9	8	5.3
Monterey	1,138	17.5	1,038	16.3
Napa	332	13.9	295	12.4
Nevada	328	31.0	286	27.0
Orange	2,134	14.8	2,052	14.6
Placer	302	11.2	296	11.1
Plumas	164	18.5	166	18.9
Riverside	1,981	21.0	1,771	19.1
Sacramento	2,728	16.6	2,530	15.7
San Benito	148	12.0	138	11.3
San Bernardino	2,902	18.1	2,664	17.0
San Diego	4,549	18.0	4,175	16.9
San Francisco	8,507	12.3	8,219	12.0
San Joaquin	2,026	17.9	1,854	16.6
San Luis Obispo	524	15.9	483	14.8
San Mateo	787	8.3	653	7.0
Santa Barbara	1,241	16.4	1,128	15.2
Santa Clara	2,521	15.3	2,385	14.7
Santa Cruz	611	14.4	579	13.9
Shasta	352	24.8	281	19.9
Sierra	25	9.3	17	6.4
Siskiyou	435	15.3	385	13.7
Solano	530	12.9	469	11.4
Sonoma	901	13.5	746	11.3
Stanislaus	1,330	21.3	1,275	20.7
Sutter	372	22.4	291	17.8
Tehama	260	18.2	267	18.8
Trinity	25	8.6	21	7.2
Tulare	2,265	26.5	1,869	22.1
Tuolumne	179	18.0	142	14.4
Ventura	1,361	20.5	1,171	18.0
Yolo	385	14.5	342	13.1
Yuba	242	20.6	246	21.0
Totals	101,617	15.3	94,286	14.4

**MORBIDITY****Complete Reports for Following Diseases for Week Ending March 11, 1939****Chickenpox**

1045 cases: Alameda County 36, Alameda 6, Berkeley 4, Emeryville 3, Hayward 3, Livermore 14, Oakland 48, Piedmont 1, San Leandro 2, Butte County 10, Chico 10, Gridley 22, Contra Costa County 14, Antioch 29, Concord 10, Fresno County 6, Fresno 18, Sanger 16, Glenn County 1, Brawley 1, Inyo County 1, Kern County 21, Tehachapi 8, Kings County 1, Lassen County 1, Los Angeles County 94, Alhambra 6, Arcadia 3, Azusa 1, Burbank 1, Compton 4, El Monte 1, Glendale 16, Glendora 1, Huntington Park 7, Long Beach 17, Los Angeles 104, Monrovia 22, Montebello 1, Pasadena 11, Pomona 1, San Gabriel 9, Santa Monica 8, Lynwood 4, South Gate 10, Monterey Park 6, Maywood 2, Madera County 3, Madera 8, San Rafael 1, Ukiah 1, Merced County 3, Orange County 6, Anaheim 1, Huntington Beach 1, Santa Ana 6, Roseville 8, Riverside County 4, Corona 3, Riverside 1, Indio 1, Sacramento County 10, Sacramento 20, San Bernardino County 5, Ontario 2, San Bernardino 1, San Diego County 21, Chula Vista 2, El Cajon 4, La Mesa 1, National City 5, San Diego 75, San Francisco 55, San Joaquin County 27, Lodi 3, Stockton 9, San Luis Obispo County 5, Arroyo Grande 2, Paso Robles 2, San Mateo County 4, Burlingame 1, Daly City 5, Redwood City 1, San Bruno 10, San Mateo 2, Santa Barbara 9, Santa Clara County 4, Mountain View 1, Palo Alto 9, San Jose 21, Santa Cruz County 4, Solano County 1, Fairfield 5, Vallejo 1, Sonoma County 5, Santa Rosa 11, Modesto 2, Oakdale 2, Tehama County 2, Red Bluff 17, Tulare County 11, Porterville 3, Santa Paula 1, Ventura 1, Yolo County 1.

**Diphtheria**

29 cases: Oakland 2, Kings County 1, Los Angeles 10, Pomona 2, Monterey Park 1, Monterey County 2, Salinas 1, Santa Ana 1, San Diego County 1, San Francisco 2, Stockton 1, Santa Clara County 1, San Jose 3, Tulare County 1.

**German Measles**

36 cases: Alameda 2, Oakland 1, Fresno County 1, Los Angeles County 2, Huntington Park 1, Long Beach 1, Los Angeles



11, Pasadena 1, Pomona 1, South Gate 1, Monterey Park 1, San Diego 1, San Francisco 4, San Luis Obispo County 1, Burlingame 1, Daly City 1, San Mateo 1, Santa Clara County 1, Tulare County 1, Visalia 2.

#### Influenza

102 cases: Fresno County 1, Coalinga 3, Kern County 2, Los Angeles County 3, Compton 1, Los Angeles 32, South Gate 1, Gardena 1, Madera County 3, Madera 2, Fullerton 1, Orange 2, Roseville 25, Sacramento County 1, Sacramento 7, San Francisco 3, Santa Barbara County 4, Santa Clara County 3, Shasta County 1, Sonoma County 1, Corning 3, Lindsay 2.

#### Malaria

One case: Los Angeles County.

#### Measles

3982 cases: Alameda County 112, Alameda 130, Albany 30, Berkeley 181, Emeryville 23, Hayward 17, Oakland 472, Piedmont 11, Pleasanton 12, San Leandro 47, Butte County 5, Gridley 2, Calaveras County 4, Contra Costa County 201, Antioch 38, El Cerrito 6, Martinez 1, Pittsburg 10, Placerville 1, Fresno County 6, Fresno 17, Imperial County 6, Inyo County 15, Bishop 15, Kern County 17, Bakersfield 3, Lake County 13, Lassen County 22, Los Angeles County 62, Alhambra 4, Arcadia 2, Azusa 2, Burbank 25, Compton 3, Culver City 6, El Monte 2, Glendale 11, Huntington Park 4, Inglewood 4, Long Beach 140, Los Angeles 408, Monrovia 3, Montebello 10, Pasadena 7, Redondo 4, San Fernando 5, San Gabriel 1, Santa Monica 4, South Pasadena 1, Whittier 1, Torrance 21, Lynwood 14, South Gate 2, Gardena 1, Madera County 18, Chowchilla 6, Marin County 5, San Rafael 9, Ukiah 17, Merced County 4, Mono County 1, Monterey County 3, Napa County 1, Napa 2, Orange County 8, Fullerton 1, Huntington Beach 1, Santa Ana 2, La Habra 7, Lincoln 1, Roseville 2, Riverside County 63, Banning 48, Beaumont 1, Corona 2, Perris 6, Riverside 57, Indio 24, Sacramento County 40, Sacramento 225, North Sacramento 16, San Bernardino County 36, Redlands 4, San Bernardino 51, San Diego County 12, National City 9, San Diego 83, San Francisco 277, San Joaquin County 12, Lodi 2, Manteca 2, Stockton 48, San Luis Obispo County 16, Paso Robles 7, San Luis Obispo 1, San Mateo County 22, Burlingame 12, Daly City 21, Hillsborough 1, Redwood City 51, San Bruno 2, San Mateo 11, Atherton 2, San Carlos 3, Menlo Park 17, Belmont 2, Santa Barbara County 5, Santa Clara County 146, Gilroy 1, Los Gatos 10, Mountain View 5, Palo Alto 11, San Jose 109, Santa Clara 2, Sunnyvale 7, Santa Cruz County 11, Watsonville 15, Shasta County 2, Solano County 27, Benicia 58, Vallejo 25, Sonoma County 27, Petaluma 23, Santa Rosa 9, Stanislaus County 15, Modesto 6, Sutter County 1, Tehama County 6, Corning 19, Porterville 2, California 2.\*

#### Mumps

1100 cases: Alameda County 16, Alameda 5, Albany 7, Berkeley 79, Emeryville 2, Oakland 116, Piedmont 28, San Leandro 10, Chico 1, Calaveras County 1, Contra Costa County 51, Antioch 10, El Cerrito 3, Martinez 2, Pittsburg 4, Walnut Creek 13, El Dorado County 2, Placerville 1, Fresno County 3, Fresno 8, Glenn County 2, Westmorland 1, Kern County 50, Bakersfield 1, Delano 4, Kings County 7, Lake County 1, Los Angeles County 10, Arcadia 1, Compton 1, Glendale 2, Huntington Park 1, Long Beach 4, Los Angeles 47, Pasadena 10, Pomona 1, San Fernando 1, San Marino 3, Santa Monica 1, Lynwood 3, South Gate 1, Madera County 13, Madera 1, Chowchilla 2, Merced County 28, Monterey County 2, Calistoga 4, Santa Ana 2, Riverside County 8, Beaumont 15, Riverside 6, Sacramento County 21, Sacramento 32, North Sacramento 1, San Bernardino County 5, Ontario 5, San Bernardino 1, San Diego County 19, Chula Vista 1, San Diego 18, San Francisco 75, San Joaquin County 42, Stockton 28, San Luis Obispo County 6, San Luis Obispo 9, San Mateo County 4, Burlingame 12, San Mateo 3, Atherton 2, Santa Clara County 5, Los Gatos 1, San Jose 7, Santa Cruz County 14, Shasta County 47, Redding 2, Solano County 1, Benicia 2, Rio Vista 16, Vallejo 13, Sonoma County 1, Stanislaus County 4, Modesto 1, Turlock 3, Corning 3, Red Bluff 3, Trinity County 1, Tulare County 33, Exeter 9, Lindsay 3, Porterville 1, Visalia 34, Yolo County 12, Yuba County 5.

#### Pneumonia (Lobar)

78 cases: Alameda 1, Oakland 1, Antioch 1, Fresno County 1, Delano 1, Lake County 1, Los Angeles County 9, Glendale 1, Los Angeles 26, Pomona 1, Santa Monica 1, Madera County 2, Merced County 1, Modoc County 1, Monterey County 1, Orange County 1, Santa Ana 1, Banning 1, Riverside 1, Sacramento 3, San Bernardino County 1, Redlands 1, San Diego 1, San Francisco 18, Marysville 1.

#### Scarlet Fever

298 cases: Alameda 1, Oakland 2, Butte County 7, Gridley 1, Colusa County 1, Contra Costa County 2, Fresno County 2, Fresno 1, Sanger 2, Glenn County 2, Imperial County 4, Brawley 1, El Centro 3, Kern County 12, Delano 3, Kings County 3, Hanford 2, Lemoore 1, Los Angeles County 35, Alhambra 2, Arcadia 1, Compton 2, Culver City 3, Glendale 1, Huntington Park 2, Long Beach 5, Los Angeles 80, Pasadena 4, Pomona 11, Santa Monica 2, Torrance 1, Lynwood 1, South Gate 3, Madera County 2, Monterey County 4, Salinas 1, Orange County 3, Santa Ana 6, La Habra 1, Laguna Beach 1, Roseville 1, Plumas

County 3, Riverside County 3, Elsinore 1, Riverside 1, Sacramento County 2, Sacramento 2, San Bernardino County 6, Redlands 1, San Bernardino 1, San Diego 4, San Francisco 17, San Joaquin County 1, Manteca 1, Stockton 1, San Mateo County 1, Burlingame 2, Redwood City 1, San Carlos 1, Santa Barbara County 3, Santa Barbara 4, Santa Clara County 4, Los Gatos 1, Santa Clara 1, Santa Cruz County 2, Solano County 2, Turlock 3, Yuba City 1, Red Bluff 1, Tulare County 4, Winters 1.

#### Smallpox

30 cases: Imperial County 1, Calipatria 1, Kern County 1, Los Angeles County 2, Los Angeles 1, Orange County 1, Lincoln 5, Indio 1, Sacramento 3, San Mateo County 2, Redwood City 2, Tulare County 10.

#### Typhoid Fever

One case: Los Angeles County.

#### Whooping Cough

169 cases: Alameda 1, Berkeley 2, Oakland 1, Pittsburg 1, Fresno County 1, Kern County 10, Taft 1, Lassen County 2, Los Angeles County 8, Glendale 7, Hermosa 1, Inglewood 2, Huntington Park 1, Long Beach 10, Los Angeles 27, Montebello 2, Pasadena 2, Pomona 1, Redondo 1, Santa Monica 3, Sierra Madre 1, Lynwood 1, South Gate 2, Marin County 2, King City 3, Anaheim 2, Fullerton 4, Santa Ana 4, Corona 1, Sacramento County 2, San Diego County 10, San Diego 10, San Francisco 12, San Joaquin County 5, Burlingame 2, San Bruno 1, Sonoma County 3, Santa Rosa 5, Porterville 1, Ventura County 2, Oxnard 1, Santa Paula 1, Ventura 1, Yolo County 8, Winters 1.

#### Meningitis (Epidemic)

4 cases: Oakland 1, Alhambra 1, South Gate 1, San Diego 1.

#### Dysentery (Amoebic)

2 cases: San Bernardino 1, Santa Maria 1.

#### Dysentery (Bacillary)

2 cases: Sonoma County 1, Ventura County 1.

#### Leprosy

2 cases: Glendale 1, Napa County 1.

#### Pellagra

2 cases: Los Angeles 1, San Francisco 1.

#### Poliomyelitis

One case: Los Angeles.

#### Trachoma

4 cases: Madera County 2, Indio 1, Tulare 1.

#### Encephalitis (Epidemic)

One case: Los Angeles.

#### Paratyphoid Fever

2 cases: Los Angeles County 1, Los Angeles 1.

#### Rabies (Human)

One case: Los Angeles County.

#### Trichinosis

One case: San Jose.

#### Typhus Fever

2 cases: Los Angeles.

#### Food Poisoning

13 cases: Los Angeles 6, Santa Barbara 7.

#### Undulant Fever

9 cases: Butte County 1, Long Beach 1, Los Angeles 1, San Bernardino County 2, Santa Cruz County 1, Siskiyou County 1, Ventura County 2.

#### Tularemia

One case: Fillmore.

#### Coccidioidal Granuloma

3 cases: Hanford 1, Monterey County 2.

#### Septic Sore Throat

3 cases: El Cerrito 1, Laguna Beach 1, Santa Cruz County 1.

#### Rabies (Animal)

45 cases: Fresno 1, Imperial County 1, Kern County 6, Bakersfield 5, Los Angeles County 6, Los Angeles 3, Manhattan 1, Monrovia 1, Hawthorne 1, Madera 1, Chowchilla 1, San Diego County 2, Coronado 1, La Mesa 1, San Diego 3, San Mateo County 1, Santa Clara County 6, San Jose 1, Santa Clara 1, Tulare County 2.

\* Cases charged to "California" represent patients ill before entering the state or those who contracted their illness traveling about the state throughout the incubation period of the disease. These cases are not chargeable to any one locality.